

SCIENTIFIC  
AMERICAN

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May 5, 1972

Dear Dr. Nirenberg:

We have pleasant memories of the article you were kind enough to write for us in 1963, and we should now like to make another proposal.

We here at Scientific American have always been somewhat frustrated by the fact that the articles we publish do not have more of a life beyond their initial creation. It is true that large numbers of reprints are distributed, but we feel that even more is needed. It has lately seemed to us that a logical extension of each of the major articles we publish would be a small illustrated book of perhaps 50,000 words (roughly 100 pages).

Such a book could be written at the level of a Scientific American article. It could of course take advantage of the fact that some of the illustrations had already been prepared for the magazine. Other illustrations could of course be added.

The book would be published by our partners, W.H. Freeman and Company of San Francisco. One of the editors at Scientific American, however, would work with the author on the production of the book and its illustrations. Our colleagues at the Freeman company estimate that a book of this kind would have a minimum first edition of 5,000 cloth-bound copies and 7,500 paper-bound copies. These editions would probably be priced respectively at \$6 and \$3. The usual royalty arrangements would obtain.

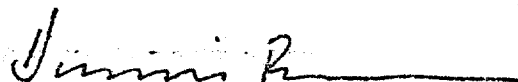
Would you consider writing such a book that might simply be titled "The Genetic Code"? If so, one of us would

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welcome an opportunity to call on you and discuss the matter further. It would be a privilege for Scientific American and the Freeman company to present a more extended account of this area in which your own work has played such a significant part. I look forward to hearing from you at your convenience.

Cordially,



Dennis Flanagan  
Editor

DF:ap

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